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Canadian Intelligence
Interviews Students

OTTAWA, CANADA—(CPS)—United States student organizations aren't the only ones on this continent that have had contact with intelligence organizations, according to the head of the Canadian Union of Students (CUS).

CUS president Doug Ward has admitted that for the past 15 years leaders of his association have had annual interviews with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). Canadian University Press reports that no money was offered in exchange for information gained from CUS.

WARD'S REVELATION came in reaction to the current controversy involving the U.S. National Student Association (NSA) and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). CUS, Canada's largest student organi-

zation, represents the student associations of most English-speaking Canadian universities.

Ward stated, "I am disturbed at the approach the RCMP uses—seeking interviews on a personal basis with people who are obviously selected for the positions they hold."

THE CANADIAN student leader described as "friendly" an interview he had last summer with an RCMP official at CUS headquarters. A request from Ward that the talk be "considered public and non-confidential" was met by the RCMP.

"In addition to expressing interest in receiving information on the traditional topic—Eastern Europe student politics—the officer mentioned that he was particularly interested in knowing about subversion in Canada," Ward said.

THE CUS president stated he "refused to involve myself or CUS in such activities. Since then there has been no further communication from the RCMP."

Grants from the CIA-linked Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs of New York (FYSA) have been received by CUS. Ward said the funds amounted to only \$3,000.

IN REACTION to the FYSA grant, CUS has asked Canadian Prime Minister Lester Pearson to "strongly protest the covert intrusion of the CIA" into Canadian student affairs. CUS has also requested the Prime Minister to provide "assurance that the RCMP is not engaged in any similar operations."

The message to Pearson said CUS was "deeply distressed . . . by the disclosure that ostensible private philanthropic agencies are actually tools of the U.S. intelligence network." CUS commented, "The problem lies in the growing influence which could be exerted, especially in youth and student affairs where finances are seriously limited, by an organization with much available cash and hidden purposes."